

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-16 (cancelled).

Claim 17. (Withdrawn) Method for producing a glutamine-rich gluten-free peptide preparation from gluten protein, comprising the steps of:

- a) enzymatically hydrolysing gluten using one or more proteases to obtain a hydrolysate;
- b) acidifying the hydrolysate to a pH between 4 and 5; and
- c) filtering the hydrolysate to obtain the glutamine-rich gluten-free peptide preparation as the filtrate.

Claim 18. (Withdrawn) The method as claimed in claim 17, wherein the proteases are alkaline or neutral proteases.

Claim 19. (Withdrawn) The method as claimed in claim 17, wherein the pH is between 4.2 and 4.8.

Claim 20. (Withdrawn) The method as claimed in claim 17, wherein the pH is between 4.5 and 4.7.

Claim 21. (Withdrawn) The method as claimed in claim 17, wherein proteases are used that are active at a pH above 6.

Claim 22. (Withdrawn) The method as claimed in claim 17, wherein between step b) and c) the enzymes are inactivated.

Claim 23. (Withdrawn) The method as claimed in claim 22, wherein the enzymes are inactivated by means of heat.

Claim 24. (Withdrawn) The method as claimed in claim 17, wherein the gluten is wheat gluten.

Claim 25. (Withdrawn) A peptide preparation prepared from gluten protein, which is glutamine-rich and gluten-free and obtainable by a method as claimed in claim 17.

Claim 26. (Withdrawn) The peptide preparation as claimed in claim 25, wherein the gluten from which the preparation is made is wheat gluten.

Claim 27. (Withdrawn) The peptide preparation as claimed in claim 25 for use as an ingredient in glutamine peptide tablets.

Claim 28. (Withdrawn) The peptide preparation as claimed in claim 25 for use as an ingredient in glutamine peptide liquid beverages.

Claim 29. (Withdrawn) The peptide preparation as claimed in claim 25 for use as an ingredient in glutamine peptide enteral nutrition.

Claim 30. (Withdrawn) Glutamine peptide tablets comprising the usual carriers, diluents and excipients for tablets and a peptide preparation as claimed in claim 25 as glutamine peptide source.

Claim 31. (Withdrawn) A glutamine peptide liquid beverage comprising ingredients for beverages and a peptide preparation as claimed in claim 25 as glutamine peptide source.

Claim 32. (Withdrawn) A glutamine peptide enteral nutrition comprising carriers, diluents and excipients for enteral nutrition and a peptide preparation as claimed in claim 25 as glutamine peptide source.

Claim 33. (Currently Amended) A glutamine-rich gluten-free peptide preparation, comprising an enzymatic hydrolysate of gluten wheat protein from which the gliadin component of the wheat gluten protein ~~fragments~~ that ~~cause~~ causes hypersensitivity in coeliac patients ~~have~~ has been removed.

Claim 34. (Previously Presented) The preparation according to claim 33, wherein said preparation yields a value of less than 200 ppm of gluten in an ELISA test based on anti- Ω -gliadin antibodies.

Claim 35. (Previously Presented) The preparation according to claim 33, wherein said enzymatic hydrolysate is obtained by treatment of gluten with a basic or neutral protease active at a pH above 6.

Claim 36. (Previously Presented) The preparation according to claim 33, wherein said protease is selected from the group consisting of Proleather N (Amano), Neutrase (NOVO), Promod 192P (Biocatalysts), Alcalase 2.4L (NOVO), Protease S (Amano), Peptidase A (Amano) and Peptidase R (Amano).